

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

January 4, 2005

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) has indicated that at its January 27, 2005 meeting it plans to consider approval of staff recommendations to require certain private and publicly operated marinas in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties provide additional boater sewage disposal facilities. The LARWQCB staff report recommends that 22 additional pump-out and 21 additional dump stations (for emptying of vessel holding tanks) be provided in Marina del Rey within a one to two-year period, or alternatively, that contracted mobile pump-out services be provided for all vessels berthed in the Marina. LARWQCB has also scheduled a “public workshop” on January 6, 2005 to consider “verbal comments” on its staff recommendations.

No notification of the proposed January 27, 2005 consideration of the staff report of the January 6, 2005 “workshop” was delivered to the County, the Department of Beaches Harbors (DBH), the Sheriff’s Harbormaster for Marina del Rey or affected Marina lessees to allow for written comment on these proposals. Moreover, the proposed actions were only recently brought to the County’s attention by concerned Ventura County marina operators who then

- MORE -

MOTION

BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
MOLINA	_____

informally contacted DBH. The LARWQCB website does not contain notice of the proposed consideration of the regulations, the proposed workshop, or the staff report relating to the recommendations and, thus, does not provide appropriate public notice to the County, operators of Marina del Rey anchorages or other affected parties. Information regarding these actions does not appear to be easily accessible to potentially affected or interested parties or the public.

Data collected and analyzed by DBH and its consultants relating both to current usage of existing pump-out and other boater sewage disposal facilities in Marina del Rey, as well as continuous water quality analyses within the Marina, indicates that the proposed regulations may be premature, without justification and, at a minimum, deserving of further study, analysis and public input prior to consideration for adoption and/or implementation. The collected and analyzed data suggests that there currently exists in Marina del Rey substantial unused pump-out station capacity, a high level of boater compliance with regulations relating to disposal of waste, and that the incidence of degraded water quality are most prevalent in areas adjacent to Ballona Creek and the Oxford Flood Basin. Such facts strongly suggest that these water conditions are due to urban stormwater runoff emanating from such sources, rather than from the effects of the boater activity which is the target of the proposed LARWQCB requirements.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

- 1) Direct DBH to appear at the scheduled LARWQCB workshop on January 6, 2005 and express the Board's position relating to consideration of the proposed regulations, and to urge that further study and opportunity for the County, affected Marina del Rey lessees and members of the public be provided; and
- 2) Direct DBH to furnish LARWQCB with information relating to the findings and analysis of DBH and its consultants, as well as apprise LARWQCB of the

efforts currently underway by DBH, the Department of Public Works and other County and governmental agencies to identify and address both water quality and the availability of pump-out and other sanitary facilities in Marina del Rey; and

- 3) Direct DBH to urge LARWQCB to consider and coordinate its efforts with the efforts of the County, including DBH, and the Department of Public Works to more effectively and efficiently work toward the utilization of resources to address our shared concern that the water quality of Marina del Rey be preserved and improved.

RV: cg

#